



Docket No.: 16159/021001; P6416

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Syed M. Ali et al.

Conf. No.: 5348

Application No.: 09/997,927

Art Unit: 2143

Filed: November 30, 2001

Examiner: D. M. Doan

For: **TRANSPARENT INJECTION OF
INTELLIGENT PROXIES INTO EXISTING
DISTRIBUTED APPLICATIONS**

Assistant Commissioner for Patent
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APPELLANT'S REPLY BRIEF UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 41.41

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 41.41, please consider the following Appellant's Reply Brief in the referenced Application currently before the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences. The present Reply Brief is in response to the Examiner's Answer dated April, 7, 2006.

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OTHER SOURCES

Manual of Patent Examining Procedure 2112 (8th Edition, Revised October 2005) 5

I. Real Party in Interest

The statement regarding the Real Party in Interest in the Appellant's Brief filed January 17, 2006 ("the Brief of Appellant") remains valid.

II. Related Appeals and Interferences

To the best knowledge of the Appellant and the Appellant's legal representative, there are no further appeals or interferences in addition to that reported in the Brief of Appellant that will directly affect, be affected by, or have a bearing on the decision of the Board in the pending appeal. Furthermore, to the best of knowledge of the Appellant and the Appellant's legal representative, there has been no decision in the earlier-reported appeal.

III. Status of Claims

The statement regarding the Status of Claims in the Brief of Appellant remains valid.

IV. Status of Amendments

The statement regarding the Status of Amendments in the Brief of Appellant remains valid.

V. Summary of Claimed Subject Matter

The Summary of Claimed Subject Matter in the Brief of Appellant remains unchanged.

VI. Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal

The Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal in the Brief of Appellant remains unchanged.

VII. Argument

The Appellant respectfully maintains the positions outlined in the Brief of Appellant. Nonetheless, the Appellant respectfully replies to the Examiner's Answer of April 7, 2006 as follows.

The following sections correspond to groupings used by the Examiner in responding to the arguments presented in the Brief of Appellant.

A. Claims 1 and 31

At the outset, the Appellant respectfully notes that claim 1 is not pending in the referenced application. However, to the extent that the Examiner's response on page 8 of the Examiner's Answer is applicable to independent claims 8 and 31, the Appellant responds as follows.

The Examiner has continued to assert that the claims do not recite "find [sic] all of the remote object [sic]." (Examiner's Answer, p. 8). The Appellant has already acknowledged in both the Request for Pre-Appeal filed November 14, 2005 (p. 2) and the Brief of Appellant (p. 8-9) that the term "all" is not present in the pending claims. However, the Appellant is still awaiting a response from the Examiner as to why the current wording of the claim, namely the phrase "analyzing the server portion to determine each of the plurality the remote objects in the server portion," is not equivalent to finding all remote objects in the server portion.

In addition to asserting that "finding each" is not equivalent to "finding all," the Examiner has asserted that the limitation "analyzing the server portion to determine each of the plurality the remote objects in the server portion" is "inherent when creating proxies for the subject object's super classes" (Examiner's Answer, p. 8). Section 2112 of the Manual of Patent Examination Procedure (MPEP) provides that:

In relying upon the theory of inherency, the examiner must provide a basis in fact and/or technical reasoning to reasonably support the determination that the allegedly inherent characteristic necessarily flows from the teachings of the applied prior art." *Ex parte Levy*, 17 USPQ2d 1461, 1464 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1990) (emphasis in original)

The Examiner has not met the burden setout in MPEP § 2112. Rather, the Examiner has merely asserted that "the determining step is inherent when creating proxies for the subject object's super classes" (Examiner's Answer, p.

8). Clearly, such an assertion without any additional support for why the Examiner believes that the claim limitation (*i.e.*, “analyzing the server portion to determine each of the plurality the remote objects in the server portion”) *necessarily* flows from the above teach of Glass falls short of the requirements setout in the MPEP § 2112. In view of the Examiner’s failure to satisfy the requirements setout in MPEP § 2112, the Appellant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw this theory of rejection or provide reasoning as to why the Examiner believes that the aforementioned claim limitation *necessarily* flows from the teachings of Glass.

Finally, the Examiner has continued to assert that the “proxy acts as a middleman between the requested object and the requesting server” (Examiner’s Answer, p. 8). In continuing to assert this position, the Examiner has clearly misinterpreted the Appellant’s position with respect to this claim limitation (*i.e.*, “modifying the client portion to substitute a call for a remote object with a call for a corresponding proxy”). The Appellant acknowledges that the proxy is interposed between the client portion and the server portion, such that at least some information passes between the client portion and the server portion via the proxy.

However, the Appellant disagrees about how the client portion (as recited in the claims) interacts with the proxy and how the client in Glass interacts with the proxy. A close reading of Glass reveals that there is no *explicit* teaching of modifying the client (and more specifically the source code within the client) to replace calls to the remote object with calls to the proxy. Further, the only teaching in Glass of client-proxy communication is detailed in Figure 2. As previously stated, *each time* an object on the server is requested by the client, the steps in Figure 2 are performed. Of importance is step 30, which performs the following query “Does a proxy class exist for [sic] object on [sic] client system?” If the client was in fact modified such that calls to the object were replaced with calls to the proxy, then step 30 would not be required (*see* Brief of the Appellant, pp. 10-11). The Examiner has not provided any response to rationalize why step 30 would be required if the client had in fact been modified.

In view of the fact that the claim limitation (*i.e.*, “modifying the client portion to substitute a call for a remote object with a call for a corresponding proxy”) is not expressly taught, the Appellant requests the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

B. Claim 10

In responding to the Appellant’s assertion that the limitations of claim 10 (*i.e.*, “wherein analyzing the server portion comprises parsing machine code for the server portion”) are not taught by Glass (*see Brief of Appellant*, pp. 12-13), the Examiner has merely indicated that byte code and machine code are equivalent (*see Examiner’s Answer*, pp. 8-9). However, the Examiner has not made any attempt to indicate how the cited portions of Glass (*i.e.*, col. 9, ll. 45-55) teach all the limitations of claim 10.

To reiterate, claim 10 requires that the step of “analyzing the server portion to determine each of the plurality the remote objects in the server portion” includes parsing the machine code of the server portion. Said another way, the remote objects in the server portion are located by parsing the machine code of the server portion. The Appellant continues to assert that the cited portion of Glass (*i.e.*, col. 9, ll. 45-55) only discloses the creation of a proxy without any teaching of parsing the source code to locate each of the remote objects in the server portion. Moreover, there is no other portion of Glass which, either expressly or impliedly, discloses parsing the machine code of the server to locate each of the remote objects in the server portion. In view of the above, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

C. Claim 15

In responding to the Appellant’s assertion that the limitations of claim 15 (*i.e.*, “modifying the client portion to substitute a call to a first lookup service that locates the remote object with a call to a second lookup service that locates the corresponding proxy”) are not taught by Glass (*see Brief of*

Appellant, pp. 13-14), the Examiner has merely indicated that Glass discloses two Object Request Brokers (ORBs) (*see* Examiner's Answer, p. 9).

Turning to the language of claim 15, claim 15 requires: (i) a first lookup service configured to lookup remote objects, (ii) a second lookup service configured to lookup proxy objects; (iii) original calls in a client portion to the first lookup service; and (iv) replacement of the original calls in the client portion with new calls to the second lookup service.

From the above requirements of claim 15, it is clear that original calls are directed from the client portion to the first lookup service and the new calls are directed from the client portion to the second lookup service. In asserting that each ORB corresponds to one of the lookup services, the Examiner has overlooked the requirement that calls originally directed to the first ORB have been modified to now be directed to the second ORB. Rather, the client-side ORB in Glass is only directed to communicate with the client and the server-side ORB is only directed to communicate with the server (*see* Glass, col. 15, l. 29- col. 18, l. 60). Because the client cannot directly communicate with the server-side ORB, it logically flows that calls in the client to the client-side ORB are not replaced with calls to the server-side ORB.

Moreover, the two ORBs disclosed in Glass are "responsible for encoding messages into an on-the-wire format and decoding the message [sic] upon receipt" (Glass, col. 12, ll. 7-9; *see also* col. 12, ll. 51-53, col. 14, ll. 10-13). From the above disclosure, it is clear that the ORBs in Glass (i) are used to facilitate communication between the client and the server and (ii) that the ORBs communicate with each other. However, Glass is completely silent with respect one of the ORBs configured to search for a proxy object and a second ORB configured to search for a remote object. In view of the above, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

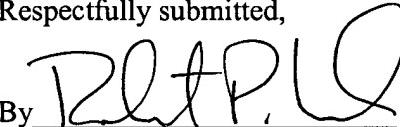
VIII. Conclusion

For the reasons presented above, claims 2-8, 10-24, and 31-32 of the '927 Application are patentable over the cited art, as Glass does not disclose all of the limitations recited therein. Therefore, the Appellant respectfully requests that the Board reverse the Examiner's rejections and allow all pending claims 2-8, 10-24, and 31-32 of the '927 Application.

Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference No. 16159/021001).

Date: June 7, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
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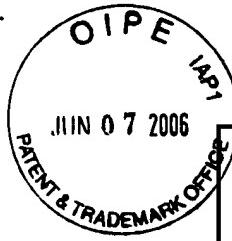
		Application Number	09/997,927-Conf. #5348
		Filing Date	November 30, 2001
		First Named Inventor	Syed M. Ali
		Art Unit	2143
		Examiner Name	D. M. Doan
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number	16159/021001; P6416

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

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Application No. (if known): 09/997,927

Attorney Docket No.: 16159/021001; P6416

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Appellant's Reply Brief Under 37 C.F.R. §41.41 (9 pages)